

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-20 HA-05 /106 W
-----085911 290750Z /17

R 280935Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0103
INFO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSIONUSUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS NIAMEY 1922

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SHUM , NG
SUBJECT: NIGER QUIETLY RELEASES SEVERAL POLITICAL DETAINEES ON
APRIL 15, FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF ARMED FORCES TAKEOVER

SEVEN (7) POLITICAL DETAINEES WERE FREED APRIL 15 HIGHLIGHTING
A QUIET BUT CORRECT FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF NIGER'S
SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL'S SEIZURE OF POWER. THE PRISONERS'
RELEASE, WHICH INCLUDED SEVERAL RANKING MEMBERS OF DEPOSED
BIORI HAMANI'S GOVERNMENT WAS CARRIED OUT QUIETLY, RECEIVING
NO PUBLIC FANFARE OR LOCAL MEDIA COVERAGE.

RELEASED WERE:

LEOPOLD KAZIENDE- MINISTER OF DEFENSE AT THE TIME OF THE
COUP D'ETAT AND A TRUSTED MEMBER OF KIORI'S CABINET, KAZIENDE
PREVIOUSLY HELD MINISTRY PORTFOLIOS IN PUBLIC WORKS, MINES AND
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URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

MAHAMANE DAN BOBI - DIORI'S MINISTER OF RURAL ECONOMY, DOBI
PREVIOUSLY DIRECTED THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE HIGHLIGHTING A
LONG CAREER AS A CIVIL SERVANT AND AN ACTIVE LOCAL POLITICIAN.
LIKE KAZIENDE AND DIORI, HE WAS A GRADUATE OF DAKAR'S WILLIAM
PONTY NORMAL SCHOOL.

HAROU KOUKA - HEADING THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR DIORI
IN 1974, HE PREVIOUSLY HELD CABINET POSITIONS IN EDUCATION
AND LABOR DATING BACK TO NIGER'S INDEPENDENCE.

BALA ARBE - DIORI'S FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMED FORCES,
BALA WAS A RESPECTED MILITARY OFFICER WITH THE RANK OF COLONEL.

AHMED GARBA - HE DIRECTED NIGER'S NATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION, THE
UNION NATIONALE DES TRAVAILLEURS NIGERIENS (UNTN).

IBRAHIM ISSA - HE HELD THE POSITION DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION AT THE
TIME OF THE COUP.

DODO AMTALLI - LINGUISTDAVISON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMED FORCES, ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS, POLITICAL PRISONERS, PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NIAEMEY01922
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780183-0781
Format: TEL
From: NIAEMEY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978045/aaaaadml.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f75888ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2946127
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NIGER QUEITLY RELEASES SEVERAL POLITICAL DETAINEES ON APRIL 15, FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF ARMED FORCES TAKEOVER SEVEN (7) POLITICAL DETAINEES WERE FREED APRIL 15
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, NG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f75888ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014